Import of Urea

77. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that upto 1994 MMTC and STC the two primary public sector units were importing urea for the country which at times amounted to over 35 lakh tonnes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that urea imported by agencies was distributed by other agencies including NFL; and

(c) if so, what were the compulsions for Government of the day to change the set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) MMTC Limited was the sole Canalising Agency upto October'94 to imprt urea. The annual import of urea by MMTC till 1994 was below 30 lakh tonnes.

(b) No, Sir. NFL was not a designated agency for handling imported urea.

(c) Due to shortfall in the arrivals of urea during Kharif 94, Government inducted National Fertilizer Ltd. and Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. to import some quantities of urea on Government account during 1994-95 to supplement MMTC's efforts. Later for 1995-96, Indian Potash Ltd. and State Trading Corporation ltd. were also authorised to import urea in addition to MMTC.

विदेशों में भारतीय श्रमिकों की मांग

*78. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरीला:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विदेशों में भारतीय श्रमिकों की मांग में निरन्तर गिरावट आ रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं,

(ग) क्या भारतीय श्रमिकों को विदेशों में रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध करवाने के लिए कुछ अन्य राष्ट्राध्यक्षों के साथ कोई विचार-विमर्श किया गया है, और

(घ) प्रति वर्ष कितने भारतीयों को विदेशों में रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध करवाये जाते हैं?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री एम० अरूणाचलम): (क) और (ख) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार गत 4 वर्षों के दौरान विदेशों में भारतीय श्रमिकों की मांग में कोई महत्वपूर्ण कमी नहीं आई है। कुछ कमी प्रक्रिया को उदार बनाए जाने के कारण हो सकती है जिसके अन्तर्गत कर्मकारों की अधिकाधिक श्रेणियों को "उत्प्रवास जांच आवश्यक नहीं" वर्गीकरण में शामिल किया गया है।

(ग) इस समय विदेशों में श्रमिकों के रोजगार को विभिन्न देशों के आप्रवास नियमों द्वारा विनियमन किया जाता है। तथापि, जनरल एग्रीमेंट आन ट्रेड इन सर्विसेज (गैट्स) के अन्तर्गत विश्व व्यपार संगठन में बातचीत द्वारा विदेशों में विशिष्ट सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए भारत अपने नागरिकों को बढ़ी हुई बाजार पहुंच उपलब्ध कराने का प्रयास कर रहा है।

(घ) ऐसे आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं।

Problems of Sugarcane Growers

*79. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the sugarcane growers in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are suffering a great deal due to failure of sugar mills to lift sugar cane;

(b) if so, whether there is a glut in sugarcane production this year, if so, the extent thereof, region-wise; and

(c) what steps have been taken to obviate the sufferings of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed on 16-6-1996 that sugar mills had crushed by then a record quantity of 471 lakh tonnes of sugarcane in the current season, 1995-96. As against this for the entire season last year i.e. October, 1994—September, 1995 only 383 lakh tonnes of sugarcane was crushed. Sugar Mills have been reported to be working even in the month of July.

Similarly in Madhya Pradesh sugar mills have crushed in the current season 13.12 lakh MT of sugarcane upto 31-5-1996 as compared to only 7.32 lakh MT of sugarcane in the entire previous season of 1994-95.

(b) A statement giving the state-wise estimated production of sugarcane during the year 1994-95 and advance estimates of 1995-96 is given below.

(c) In order to enable the sugar factories to crush the available cane and to improve the liquidity of the sugar mills, the following measures have been taken by the Government:—

(i) Incentive for late crushing in the form of higher freesale quota at the rate of 75% for the period from 15-4-1996 to 31-5-1996 and 100% from 1-6-1996 to 30-9-1996 as against the normal freesale quota of 60% have been announced.

(ii) A buffer stock of 5 lakh MT has been announced for a period of one year.

(iii) To provide relief to sugar industry RBI has decided that with immediate effect the stocks of freesale sugar (including buffer stocks) charged to banks shall be valued at higher of the average price realised in the preceding three months (moving average) or the current market price instead of lower of the two as stipulated earlier.

(iv) Export of sugar to the tune of about 10 lakh MT has already been notified from August, 1995 onwards.

Statement

Statement showing State-wise estimated Production of Sugarcane during 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(in Lakhs Tonnes)

State	Sugarcane 1994-95	Production 1995-96 (Advance Estimate)
1. Andhra Prades	159.91	143.49
2. Assam	15.05	15.14
3. Bihar	56.67	56.67
4. Gujarat	107.85	98.00
5. Haryana	70.10	75.00
6. Himachal Pradesh	0.26	0.26
7. Jammu & Kashmir	0.11	0.10
8. Karnataka	303.25	275.60
9. Kerala	4.49	5.00
10. Madhya Pradesh	15.11	20.00
11. Maharashtra	442.60	442.80
12. Orissa	11.99	11.99
13. Punjab	51.60	91.80
14. Rajasthan	9.87	9.58

State	Sugarcane 1994-95	Production 1995-96 (Advance Estimate)
15. Tamil Nadu	352.36	284.00
16. Uttar Prades	1099.07	1128.39
17. West Bengal	6.49	10.52
18. Others	5.50	5.50
ALL INDIA	2712.28	2673.84

Opening of Wagah Border Route for Indo-Pak Trade

80. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the opening of Wagah border route for Indo-Pak trade;

(b) whether Government would consider making the Wagah route opening conditional on Pakistan agreeing to open the Gadro route on Rajasthan-Sindh border, for trade and traffic; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Requests received from Indian trade and industry for opening up of Wagah border for overland trade with Pakistan are being looked into but no decision has been taken thereon so far. As regards opening up of the Gadro route, a communication on the subject had been sent to Pakistan in January 1995 proposing bilateral discussions which has not been responded to from the Pakistani side.

(c) Does not arise.

नियंत्रित दरों पर उपभोक्ता वस्तुएं उपलब्ध कराया जाना

132. **श्री रामदेव भंडारी:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत अधिकृत दुकानों के माध्यम से केवल गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रह रहे लोगों को नियंत्रित दरों पर उपभोक्ता वस्तुएं उपलब्ध कराने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या इस योजना से मध्यम वर्ग, विशेष रूप से निम्न मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव नहीं पड़ेगा और उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति का संतुलन नहीं बिगड़ जाएगा; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली में असंतुलनों को दूर करने के लिए क्या योजना बनाने का विचार रखती है और उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

खाद्य मंत्री तथा नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव): (क) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली का उद्देश्य सर्व-सुलभ हकदारी के आधार पर छः आवश्यक वस्तुओं जैसे गेहूं, चावल, चीनी, खाद्य तेल, मिट्टी के तेल तथा साफ्ट कोक की आसानी से चुकाए जा सकने वाले मूल्यों पर उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना है। अभी सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत उचित दर दुकानों के जरिए अन्य उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं को देने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।